

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Previously Presented) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:

- defining an activity state, the activity state corresponding to a human-based or manual step;
- identifying one or more performers for the activity state; and
- designating the activity state as reassignable to indicate that the activity state may be moved between performers.

A 2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of defining reference data, the reference data being information that is to be made available to the performers of the activity state.

B 3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is also made available to performers of a second activity state.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the business process model is created using Uniform Modeling Language constructs.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for providing a business process management system, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving an event;
- causing a business process object to transition to an activity state corresponding to the event;
- identifying one or more performers for the activity state;
- creating a task for each performer; and
- waiting for each task to be completed within an allotted time period.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 7 wherein if the allotted time period expires causing the business process object to transition from the activity state.

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9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising the steps of providing each performer with reference data for the activity state.

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10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim [[9]] 10 wherein the reference data is also made available to the performers of a second activity state.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising the step of retrieving modified reference data from one or more of the performers of the activity state.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12 further comprising the step of conditionally selecting a transition out of the activity state based on the retrieved modified reference data.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second event; and

applying the second event to the activity state only if the event is targeted to the activity state.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

selecting modified reference data made by at least one performer and merging it with the associated business process object.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:

defining an activity state, the activity state corresponding to either an automated step or a human-based step; and

if the activity state is defined as an automated step, performing the activity to be achieved is the step, and

if the activity state is defined as a human based step, identifying one or more performers for the activity state.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of providing an automated business process model in combination with human based events, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a event;

causing a business process object to transition to an activity state corresponding to the human based event;

identifying one or more performers for the human based event; and

creating a task for each performer, wherein each performer can trigger additional events as a result of task operation, as needed.